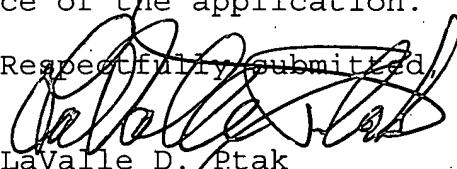


REMARKS

New Claim 15 (Claim 2 rewritten in independent form) and new independent Claim 16 (Claim 6 rewritten in independent form), along with original Claims 3 to 5 and 7 and 8 now appear in this application. The new independent claims replace the original independent Claim; and the total number of independent claims is less than three. The total number of claims is less than the number originally filed. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 9 through 14 have been cancelled.

In the final Office Action, Claim 2 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. This claim now appears as new Claim 15. Similarly, Claim 6 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. This claim now has been rewritten as new independent Claim 16. Claim 3 has been amended to be dependent on new Claim 15; and Claims 7 and 8 each have been amended to be dependent upon new Claim 16. Since Claims 4 and 5 are dependent, through one another, on Claim 3, applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in this application now are allowable. As a consequence, there are no further issues remaining in the application. Consequently, applicant respectfully requests a formal Notice of Allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,


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